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5 May 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : William K. Parmenter
Director of Current Intelligence

VIA : Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Community Comments on Current Intelligence
Publications

REFERENCE : USIB-D-71.11/20, 12 April 1976

1. This paper describes the essential comments from the intelligence community in response to your 12 April memorandum for USIB principals. These comments finally became available last Thursday (a week late); since then my people and I have been negotiating with representatives of other agencies in an effort to meet their concerns. I believe we have been successful, and I attach the "Memorandum on Procedures for the National Intelligence Daily" (Attachment 1) that has developed out of these negotiations, as well as the agencies' comments themselves (Attachment 2).

2. I believe that we should proceed with the new publication, accepting the recommendation from General Keegan that there be a review six or so months hence. I therefore recommend that you direct us to either:

-- institute the new publication regime forthwith, and that you inform the NFIB principals at the next NFIB meeting of your action, thanking them for their help and assuring them of our desire to meet their needs to the extent we can;

-- or delay beginning the new publication regime until after you have had an opportunity to hear the NFIB principals express themselves in a board meeting.

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We would prefer the first option, but recognize the possible psychological value of allowing an opportunity for a venting of views.

3. The agencies' essential comments, and what we have done to deal with them, are as follows:

a. DIA concurred in the proposal, and General Tighe recommended that a working group be formed to draft a memorandum of procedure. We met on 4 May with a working-level delegation from DIA on the draft of such a memorandum and reached a mutually satisfactory understanding, incorporated in the memo I have attached.

b. State is troubled that the degree of coordination we originally asked of them would require INR to devote additional resources to current intelligence (e.g., they would have to put some people on shift after 1700 hours weekdays and on Sundays). I have assured Marty Packman, Saunders' deputy for current intelligence, that we are not, for the purpose of this "streamlining," asking them to do anything they are not already doing. The statement we intend to publish on the masthead of the new daily takes account of State's immediate concern.

c. NSA concurs in your proposal, and makes a technical suggestion that we have agreed to adopt.

d. Treasury concurs in your proposal, and has some technical suggestions which would be helpful to the Secretary's briefing officers. I have discussed this with them, explaining which of their suggestions are feasible for us to adopt at this time and which we will have to look at as we go. Bill Morell sent along a number of additional suggestions he personally has made on previous occasions; we continue to do what we can to meet several of them and to discuss the others.

e. ERDA concurs.

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f. FBI has no comment.

g. Army believes the cabled version of the NID "would satisfy OACSI requirements for finished intelligence," but regrets the lack of maps and other graphics provided by the previous system. We do not see at the moment how we can compensate for this and still save money, but we will be looking at the problem.

h. Air Force agrees with the effort to save money but, like the Army, is concerned by the loss of graphics. General Keegan recommends a review in six months. As noted above, I recommend that you adopt this suggestion. The Air Force's (Acting) Assistant Secretary for Research and Development commented independently; his suggestions do not appear practicable at this time but will be kept in mind.

i. Navy has no comment.


William K. Parmenter

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Attachments
As Stated

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